



catalyst

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cat·a·lyst   **Pronunciation Key** (kăt'ĭ-ĭst)  
n.

1. *Chemistry*. A substance, usually used in small amounts relative to the reactants, that modifies and increases the rate of a reaction without being consumed in the process.
2. One that precipitates a process or event, especially without being involved in or changed by the consequences: "A free press... has remained... a vital catalyst to an informed and responsible electorate" (Robert O'Neal).

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[From *catalysis*.]

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*Source: The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition*


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### catalyst

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## catalyst

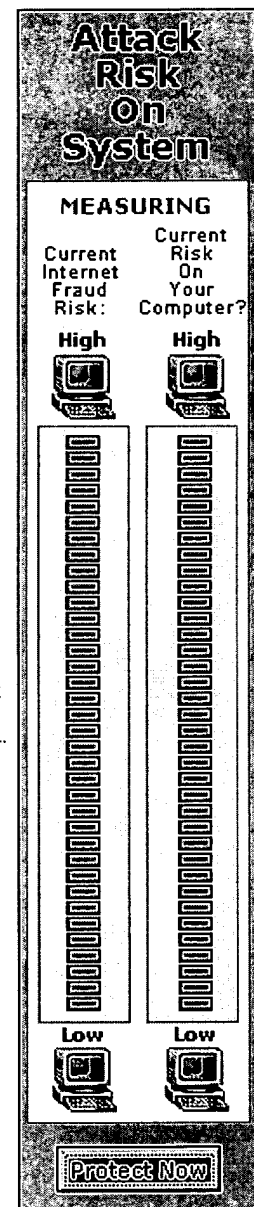
n 1: (chemistry) a substance that initiates or accelerates a chemical reaction without itself being affected [syn: accelerator] [ant: anticatalyst] 2: something that causes an important event to happen; "the invasion acted as a catalyst to unite the country"

Source: WordNet ® 1.6, © 1997 Princeton University

## catalyst

catalyst: in CancerWEB's On-line Medical Dictionary

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